

# NGDA Dataset Report

**Official NGDA Title:** LANDFIRE Surface Fuels

**Metadata Record Title:** LANDFIRE Surface Fuels

**A-16 NGDA Theme:** Land Use - Land Cover

## Executive NGDA Theme Champion(s):

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## Metadata:

**Registration Status:** Complete

**Registered on**

**GeoPlatform Link\*:** <https://www.geoplatform.gov/node/243/9b35c238-418f-4777-bace-79925427d409>

**Data.gov Metadata Link\*:**

\*If the metadata has been updated and reharvested after publication of this report, the link may no longer be valid. The dataset may be searched for manually in Data.gov or GeoPlatform.gov.

# NGDA Lifecycle Maturity Assessment (LMA) Report

## Time Frame:

Baseline assessment responses include dataset activities from 2011 to 2015.

## LMA Submission:

**Status:** Complete

**Date:** 11/20/2015

**Extension Requested:** No

## LMA Reviewer(s):

**Supervisor:** Did not review

**Theme Lead:** Greg Reams

**Executive Champion:** Did not review

**SAOGI\*:** Did not review

**Other:** Did not review

## LMA Verifier:

**Name:** Greg Reams

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## Attachments:

To get access to any attachments referenced in the report, email the LMA Help Desk at [NGDA\\_LMA\\_help@fgdc.gov](mailto:NGDA_LMA_help@fgdc.gov). Please use the subject "Dataset Report Attachment(s)" and indicate the associated official NGDA title.

\*Senior Agency Official for Geospatial Information (SAOGI)

## Lifecycle Maturity Assessment (LMA) Summary

### Overall Maturity:

**Mature; Consistent**

General Questions: 91%

**Optimized; Established**

Stage 1 - Define/Plan: 56%

**Managed; Predictable**

Stage 2 - Inventory/Evaluate: 0%

**No Activity**

Stage 3 - Obtain: 100%

**Optimized; Established**

Stage 4 - Access: 100%

**Optimized; Established**

Stage 5 - Maintain: 100%

**Optimized; Established**

Stage 6 - Use/Evaluate: 55%

**Managed; Predictable**

Stage 7 - Archive: 100%

**Optimized; Established**

## NGDA Dataset Maturity Definitions:

**How To Calculate Maturity:** [https://www.geopatform.gov/sites/default/files/How\\_to\\_Calculate\\_Maturity.pdf](https://www.geopatform.gov/sites/default/files/How_to_Calculate_Maturity.pdf)

Maturity	Maturity Characteristics for All Lifecycle Stages
Optimized; Established Rank = 5	Dataset meets virtually all business needs of all users. The dataset is considered authoritative by owners and secondary users. It is curated across all stages of the approved lifecycle. Future needs are defined on a regular basis and resources for addressing both current and future business requirements are available.
Mature; Consistent Rank = 4	Dataset meets all the business needs of the primary owner and most of the secondary users. The dataset is curated and used as authoritative by the primary owner. Dataset is used widely by secondary users actively engaged in sustaining the dataset. Future needs are identified and steps are planned to address these. All stages are supported and reviewed on a recurring basis. The dataset is well managed in relation to the approved lifecycle.
Managed; Predictable Rank = 3	Dataset meets a significant number of the business needs of the primary owner and is widely used as an authoritative resource by secondary users. Benchmark activities are occurring in at least four of the approved lifecycle stages. Management practices in relation to the approved lifecycle is moderate but consistent. Dataset is integrating changing business requirements in lifecycle stages impacting overall maturity.
Transition; Transformation Rank = 2	Dataset meets business needs of the primary owner and has moderate use by secondary users. Benchmark activities are occurring in at least three stages. Efforts to integrate funding, include partners, and obtain data are not supported in a sustained manner. Management practices in relation to the stages of the approved lifecycle is limited.
Planned; Initial Development Rank = 1	Dataset limited in meeting business needs of the primary owner. Benchmark activities in the approved lifecycle are just starting to consider secondary uses, partnerships are forming to support additional dataset uses. Dataset development is in a very early stage. Minimal or limited management against the benchmarks in the approved lifecycle.
No Activity Rank = no activity	Dataset meets project or local business needs of the primary owner, secondary or additional uses or users were not considered, not recognized as an authoritative data or is part of a similar dataset. Not managed to any of the benchmarks in the approved lifecycle.

## General Questions for All Stages

1) Is there a recurring process to obtain funding for all lifecycle stages of this dataset?

**Answer:** Funding support is part of agency budget on a recurring basis, funding is consistent and tied to business processes, and supports all lifecycle stages.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

LANDFIRE ([www.landfire.gov](http://www.landfire.gov)) is a fully funded program as mandated by the Wildland Fire Executive Council (WFEC)

2) Is there a process in place to ensure that open government and transparency guidelines are followed in all lifecycle stages for this dataset?

**Answer:** Process established, significant portions of the documentation is complete.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

LANDFIRE is engaged with it's user community at a number of levels and provides documentation and solicits feedback on all of it's geospatial products.

3) Are there processes and tools in place so that staff are sufficiently knowledgeable to ensure a continuity of the dataset for all stages of the lifecycle, especially during staffing transitions?

**Answer:** Processes and tools to ensure dataset continuity are in place and implemented for all lifecycle stages.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

LANDFIRE is committed to a biennial update process for nearly all of it's geo-spatial products

## STAGE 1 - Define/Plan

4) Are user and business requirements defined and formalized?

**Answer:** Ad hoc process is used for involving Partners/stakeholders in identifying requirements.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Requirements for many, if not all LANDFIRE products, have not been specifically defined but are instead implied within the context of the models and modelers that use the data.

5) How are partners/stakeholders involved in the requirements collection process?

**Answer:** Ad hoc process is used for involving Partners/stakeholders in identifying requirements.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Partners and stakeholders are free to comment on data quality and efficacy of data use to LANDFIRE which indirectly defines specific geospatial product requirements.

6) Is there a quality assurance process for the dataset?

**Answer:** Process identified, early implementation.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

An internal process is in place for LANDFIRE product quality assurance.

7) Is there a process to evaluate the sensitivity, privacy, and confidentiality of this dataset?

**Answer:** Process being implemented.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Sensitive, private, and confidential data are redacted from all LANDFIRE geo-spatial products.

8) Are defined data standards used in collecting, processing, and/or rendering the data?

**Answer:** Standards being implemented.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Documentation is in place on the LANDFIRE website ([www.landfire.gov](http://www.landfire.gov)) and through published

materials (also available on the website) that define data standards used on the collection, processing, and rendering of the geo-spatial products.

## STAGE 2 - Inventory/Evaluate

**9)** Is there a process for determining if data necessary to meet requirements already exist from other sources (either within or outside the agency) before collecting or acquiring new data?

**Answer:** Process is under development to identify datasets promoting reuse and reduce unnecessary duplication.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Efforts to connect with agencies to develop geo-spatial data products similar to the LANDFIRE product suite is under development and are beginning to increase. See [www.landfire.gov/lf\\_opportunities.php](http://www.landfire.gov/lf_opportunities.php).

## STAGE 3 - Obtain

**10)** Is there a process for obtaining data in relation to this dataset?

**Answer:** Process is fully implemented, reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

LANDFIRE is a fully mature program and has fully implemented a number of process that enable users to obtaining the data. See [www.landfire.gov/viewer](http://www.landfire.gov/viewer).

**11)** Is the metadata in a FGDC endorsed geospatial metadata standard?

**Answer:** Metadata is available in a format endorsed by the FGDC, it fully describes the dataset and provides all the information required to make the dataset discoverable, accessible, and usable.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

All LANDFIRE geo-spatial products have metadata in a format endorsed by the FGDC. See [www.landfire.gov/NationalProductDescriptions22.php](http://www.landfire.gov/NationalProductDescriptions22.php) for one example of the metadata.

**12)** How complete is the geographic coverage as defined in the requirements for the dataset?

**Part 1 Answer:** Business requirements for cyclic updates identified and a process is in place.

**Part 2 Answer:** Dataset has presently attained the greatest geographic coverage as defined by the current requirements or roughly 100%.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Complete dataset for all 50 states and all territories/insular areas at 30m resolution as shown on the LANDFIRE Data Viewer at [www.landfire.gov/viewer](http://www.landfire.gov/viewer).

## STAGE 4 - Access

**13)** Do you have a process for providing users access to the data in an open digital machine readable format?

**Answer:** User access process is fully implemented, data is available, process is reviewed and updated on a recurring basis.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

All LANDFIRE geo-spatial data is available at 30m resolution in ARC Grid rasters, a standard industry format. A number of tools are also made available through the project in order to help users obtain and analyze the data. See [www.landfire.gov/lf\\_tools.php](http://www.landfire.gov/lf_tools.php).

## STAGE 5 - Maintain

**14)** Is there a maintenance process for updating and storing the dataset?

**Answer:** Dataset maintenance process is fully implemented and processes are reviewed and periodically updated.

**Justification Comment:****Attachment(s):** 0

Beginning in 2010, LANDFIRE geo-spatial products have been updated biennially through 2014. See [www.landfire.gov/lf\\_schedule.php](http://www.landfire.gov/lf_schedule.php) for descriptions of each of the updated versions.

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**15)** Is there an error correction process as part of dataset maintenance?

**Answer:** Error correction process includes user notification, process reviewed on a recurring basis.

**Justification Comment:****Attachment(s):** 0

Regular data alerts and notifications capture and report important revisions and known issues and are available to data users via the LANDFIRE website. See [http://www.landfire.gov/version\\_alerts.php](http://www.landfire.gov/version_alerts.php) and <http://www.landfire.gov/notifications.php>.

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## STAGE 6 - Use/Evaluate

**16)** Is there a process to determine if the dataset meets user needs?

**Answer:** Process is being developed to determine if user needs are being addressed or met.

**Justification Comment:****Attachment(s):** 0

In preparation for a comprehensive "re-map" effort beginning over the next couple years, LANDFIRE is reaching out to the research and user community to assess current and potential future changes in geo-spatial products requirements.

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**17)** Is there a process to provide users information on how to access and properly use the dataset?

**Answer:** Process is fully implemented supporting access and proper use, process is reviewed on a recurring basis.

**Justification Comment:****Attachment(s):** 0

A number of partners interact with the LANDFIRE user community by providing tech transfer and offer training, workshops, and other information pertaining to LANDFIRE data use.

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**18)** Are the business processes and management practices assessed to meet changing technology?

**Answer:** Assessment process is being developed to take advantage of changing technology.

**Justification Comment:****Attachment(s):** 0

As part of preparation for a comprehensive "re-map" effort beginning over the next couple years, LANDFIRE is assessing changing technology in the context of current and potential future changes in geo-spatial products requirements.

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## STAGE 7 - Archive

**19)** Is there an archiving process for the dataset?

**Answer:** Archival and disposition processes are fully implemented.

**Justification Comment:****Attachment(s):** 0

LANDFIRE has implemented an archival process for older versions of its geo-spatial products and will continue to do so into the future.